

## REMARKS

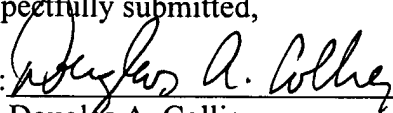
In the Non-final Office Action mailed January 6, 2009, claims 1-6, 8-12, 14-24 and 26-31 were pending and stand rejected. Claims 1-6, 8-12 and 14-24 and 26 are allowed, and claims 27-31 stand rejected. Reconsideration of the present application as amended and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 27-31 is respectfully requested.

Claims 27-31 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph for various reasons raised in the Office Action. Claim 27 is amended above to address the issues raised in the Office Action. The preamble of claim 27 is amended to conform it to the other independent claims, and claim 27 recites "a stabilization device including a cannulation and an auxiliary element" in line 3 thereof rather than in the following portions of the claim. The remaining amendments to claim 27 are provided to improve form and maintain consistency with the language added in line 3.

The present application as amended and including claims 1-6, 8-12, 14-24 and 26-31 is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned to resolve any outstanding issues with respect to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
Douglas A. Collier  
Reg. No. 43,556  
Krieg DeVault LLP  
One Indiana Square, Suite 2800  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2079  
(317) 238-6333 (voice)